

## CLAIMS

I claim:

- 1 1. A network message storage and delivery system, comprising:
- 2 means for receiving an incoming call and for detecting an address signal
- 3 associated with said incoming call, said address signal associated with a user of said
- 4 message storage and delivery system;
- 5 means for receiving a message accompanied with said address signal, said
- 6 message being in a first file format;
- 7 means for converting said message from said first file format to a second file
- 8 format;
- 9 means for storing said message in said second file format in a storage area;
- 10 means for receiving a request from said user for said message and for
- 11 retrieving said message from said storage area; and
- 12 means for transmitting a least a portion of said message in said second file
- 13 format to said user over a transmission link;
- 14 wherein said portion of said message is transmitted to said user over the
- 15 network, said second file format is a mixed media page layout language and
- 16 comprises a standard generalized mark-up language.

1           2.     A network message storage and delivery system, comprising:

2                 means for receiving an incoming call and for detecting an address signal

3     associated with said incoming call, said address signal associated with a user of said

4     message storage and delivery system;

5                 means for receiving a message accompanied with said address signal, said

6     message being in a first file format;

7                 means for converting said message from said first file format to a second file

8     format;

9                 means for storing said message in said second file format in a storage area;

10                means for receiving a request from said user for said message and for

11     retrieving said message from said storage area; and

12                means for transmitting a least a portion of said message in said second file

13     format to said user over a transmission link;

14                wherein said portion of said message is transmitted to said user over the

15     network, said second file format is a mixed media page layout language, and said

16     network comprises the Internet.

- 1           3.       A network message storage and delivery system, comprising:
- 2               a central processor for receiving an incoming call, for detecting an address
- 3               signal on said incoming call, for detecting a message on said incoming call, and for
- 4               placing said message in a storage area, said address signal being associated with a
- 5               user of said network message storage and delivery system;
- 6               a network server for receiving said message from said storage area, for
- 7               converting said message into a mixed media page layout language, and for placing
- 8               said message in said storage area;
- 9               wherein when said network server receives a request from said user over said
- 10              network, said network server transmits at least a portion of said message over said
- 11              network to said user over a transmission link and wherein said network comprises the
- 12              Internet and said network server comprises an Internet server.

1           4.     A method of storing and delivering a message for a user, comprising  
2     the steps of:  
3           receiving an incoming call and detecting an address signal associated with said  
4     incoming call, said address signal associated with a user;  
5           receiving a message associated with said address signal, said message being in  
6     a first file format;  
7           converting said message from said first file format to a second file format;  
8           storing said message in said second file format in a storage area;  
9           receiving a request from said user for said message and retrieving said  
10    message from said storage area; and  
11           transmitting at least a portion of said message in said second file format to said  
12    user over a transmission link;  
13           wherein said step of transmitting occurs over a network, said step of  
14    converting said message converts said message into a mixed media page layout  
15    language, and said step of transmitting occurs over the Internet.

1           5.     A system for receiving and storing a message signal directed to an  
2     intended recipient and for relaying the message signal to a computer, comprising:  
3           a telephone interface for receiving an incoming call from a public switched  
4     telephone network, the incoming call including the message signal;  
5           a central processor for receiving the message signal from the telephone  
6     interface and for storing the message signal in a storage medium;  
7           a hyper-text transfer protocol daemon for receiving a request for the message  
8     signal from the computer and for forwarding the request to a network server, the  
9     request from the computer being formatted in a hyper-text transfer protocol; and  
10          the network server, in response to receiving the request from the hyper-text  
11     transfer protocol daemon, forwarding at least a part of the message signal to the  
12     hyper-text transfer protocol daemon;  
13          wherein the hyper-text transfer protocol daemon transmits at least part of the  
14     message signal to the computer.

1           6.     The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the network server converts  
2     the message signal from a first file format into a standard generalized mark-up  
3     language.

1           7.       The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the central processor  
2       converts the message signal from a first file format into a standard generalized mark-  
3       up language.

1           8.     The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the hyper-text transfer  
2     protocol daemon transmits the message in a hyper-text mark-up language.

1           9.       The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the hyper-text transfer  
2       protocol daemon transmits the message in a hand-held device mark-up language.

1           10.     The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the hyper-text transfer  
2     protocol daemon transmits the message in an extensible mark-up language.

1            11.     The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the hyper-text transfer  
2     protocol daemon transmits the message in a virtual reality mark-up language.

1           12.    The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the hyper-text transfer  
2    protocol daemon receives the request from the computer through the Internet.

1           13.    The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the hyper-text transfer  
2           protocol daemon receives the request from the computer through an intranet.

1           14.    The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the telephone interface  
2           receives an address signal as part of the incoming call and the central processor stores  
3           the message signal in a directory associated with that address signal.

1           15.    The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the message signal  
2           comprises a facsimile transmission.

1           16.    The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the message signal  
2           comprises a voice message.

1           17.    The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the message signal  
2           comprises a data file.

1           18.    The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the request sent from the  
2   computer to the hyper-text transfer protocol daemon comprises a search query  
3   specifying at least one search parameter for a desired search, the hyper-text transfer  
4   protocol daemon transfers the search query to the network server, the network server  
5   performs the desired search by identifying all message signals satisfying the at least  
6   one search parameter, and the hyper-text transfer protocol daemon sends results of the  
7   desired search to the computer.

1           19.    The system as set forth in claim 18, wherein the central processor stores  
2   a data entry for each message signal.

1           20.    The system as set forth in claim 19, wherein the data entry comprises a  
2   plurality of fields for identifying the message signal.

1           21.    The system as set forth in claim 19, wherein the central processor stores  
2   the data entry in a relational database.



1           22.    The system as set forth in claim 18, wherein the central processor  
2 returns a listing of all message signals contained within the desired search to the  
3 hyper-text transfer protocol daemon and the hyper-text transfer protocol daemon  
4 sends the list to the computer.

1           23.    A method for receiving and storing a message signal directed to an  
2 intended recipient and for relaying the message signal to a computer, comprising the  
3 steps of:  
4           receiving an incoming call from a public switched telephone network, the  
5 incoming call including the message signal;  
6           storing the message signal in a storage medium;  
7           receiving, at a hyper-text transfer protocol daemon, a request for the message  
8 signal from the computer and forwarding the request to a network server;  
9           forwarding at least a part of the message signal from the network server to the  
10 hyper-text transfer protocol daemon; and  
11           transmitting at least part of the message signal from the hyper-text transfer  
12 protocol daemon to the computer.

1           24.    The method as set forth in claim 23, further comprising a step of  
2           converting the request from a first file format into a standard generalized mark-up  
3           language.

1           25.    The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the  
2           request comprises a step of receiving the request in a standard generalized mark-up  
3           language.

1           26.    The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the  
2           request comprises a step of receiving the request in a hyper-text mark-up language.

1           27.    The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the  
2           request comprises a step of receiving the request in a hand-held mark-up language.

1           28.    The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the  
2           request comprises a step of receiving the request in an extensible mark-up language.

1           29.    The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the  
2 request comprises a step of receiving the request in a virtual reality mark-up language.

1           30.    The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the  
2 call comprises a step of receiving a facsimile transmission..

1           31.    The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the  
2 call comprises a step of receiving a voice message.

1           32.    The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the  
2 call comprises a step of receiving a data file.

1           33.    The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the  
2 request comprises a step of receiving the request through the Internet.

1           34.    The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the  
2 request comprises a step of receiving the request through an intranet.

1           35.    The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the  
2 request comprises a step of receiving a search query from the computer with the  
3 search query specifying at least one search parameter for a desired search and the  
4 method further comprises the steps of performing the desired search through the  
5 storage and returning results of the desired search to the computer.

1           36.    The method as set forth in claim 35, further comprising a step of storing  
2 a data entry in the storage for each message signal received.

1           37.    The method as set forth in claim 35, wherein the step of returning the  
2 results comprises a step of returning a listing of all message signals contained within  
3 the desired search.

1           38.    The method as set forth in claim 35, further comprising a step of saving  
2 the results of the desired search in the storage.

